



# Chalice Chat

Sunday News from the Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church  
November 25, 2018

**Sharing Our Plate** *Each month, half of the contributions in the collection plate, other than those specified for pledges, go to a designated social justice organization or local charity.*

## **WHEAT Community Connections – November 25**

WHEAT Community Connections, located in Clinton, MA, gives support to individuals and families who find themselves experiencing economic and personal challenges by providing emergency assistance and programs that promote self-sufficiency. They offer services that include: Monthly Groceries, Hot Meals, Employment Listings, Health and Wellness Education, Thanksgiving Program, Hope for the Holidays Toy Program, Senior Mobile Market Program, and Case Management Services to apply for Fuel Assistance, as well as Information and Referral Services to other local assistance programs. For more information please go to: <https://www.uwotc.org/WHEAT>. If you would like 100% of your donation to go to WHEAT, please make your check out to “United Way of Tri-County” and write “WHEAT Community Services” in the memo line.

## **November 25**

*That's Enough, Thank You*

### **Rev. Jolie Olivetti**

Recently, I've had a song by Chance the Rapper going around in my head. In it he sings, “It seems like blessings keep falling in my lap.” Here's another line that keeps knocking around in my noggin, oft-quoted from the 13th-century mystic Meister Eckhart: “If the only prayer you ever said was thank you that would be enough.” Sometimes those two quotes ring true: our lives are full of bountiful blessings, and prayers of gratitude are the only prayers on our lips. But sometimes the reality is that we are stretched thin and struggling, and we

find ourselves praying for a break. On this Sunday after Thanksgiving, our refrigerators perhaps still bursting with leftovers, we will reflect on scarcity, abundance, and gratitude.

## **December 2**

*Come Love, Greater Than My Longing*  
**Rev. Jill Cowie**

In the Christian tradition, this season comes with a promise of peace. Christian theologian Henri Nouwen says, “We can only wait for what has already begun in us.” The Buddhist teacher, Jack Kornfield says “Come O Noble Born back to your true nature.” In this service we will invite the presence of peace as we explore the practices of forgiveness as taught in both traditions. Youth start in the Fellowship Building. Joys and Sorrows will happen in worship.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

November 25: Begin in sanctuary  
December 2: Fellowship Building

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**November 25, Rev. Jolie Olivetti** was ordained in April of this year, by our congregation in Watertown, where she served as ministerial intern from 2015-2017. She has also served as Youth Ministry Coordinator at our congregation in Sherborn. She is currently a chaplain resident at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and is the Affiliate Community Minister at Theodore Parker Church in West Roxbury. She lives in Jamaica Plain with her partner Adam and their daughter June. She is so

pleased to lead worship with you all the morning of November 25!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

The next meeting of the Social Justice Ministries Council will be November 29, from 7-9pm. –Ginger Kendall, Steve Farough, Risa Goldman.

### ◇◇◇ Gem of the Week ◇◇◇

In a recent [post](#) on her Blog, Debbie Irving, author of *Waking up White*, writes, “Thanksgiving’s aspiration to be a day of celebratory togetherness is beautiful. Ironically, and unfortunately, the Thanksgiving story is a prime example of what drives us apart as a nation. When we aren’t operating in reality, it’s hard to find common ground. Thanksgiving stories of harmonious Pilgrim-Indian unity couldn’t be further from the truth.” Its interesting reading as she touches on 3 myths about Thanksgiving that linger in the country’s collective conscience. It’s hard to not get depressed when we become aware of the many lies we were taught (and truths never taught) as children (back when America was great!), and this is just one more example. Yet this Thanksgiving we will still gather with family, eat turkey, and count our blessings – which, happily, can still happen even as we ‘wake up’ to the truth.

## ALLIANCE

**December 4 Boxwood Tree Bow making and Greenery Cutting.** Help prepare the tree decorations and cut the greenery. 6:30 potluck, 7:30 program.

**December 7 at 10:00 a.m. Assembling the Boxwood Trees and Centerpieces in the Fellowship Building Kitchen.** Be creative as you decorate trees and centerpieces. Hostesses: Teddy Coffin and Alice Rennie

## GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Last week we introduced the Guest at Your Table (GAYT) program, a family oriented opportunity to support the UU Service Committee efforts to raise awareness and deal with human rights and social justice issues around the world. Information about the UUSC programs and the GAYT collection boxes will be available at the back of the church and in the Fellowship Building lobby. The boxes will be collected at the Christmas Eve service and the following Sunday. This year Pam and Glen Frederick will match every dollar given by our congregation. In addition, the UU congregation in Shelter Rock, NY will match any individual or family donation or \$125 or more, effectively quadrupling these donations. Checks can be made out to the UUSC or the HUUC referencing GAYT. Please support this important expression of our UU faith. -Glen & Pam Frederick

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday November 25

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

*That’s Enough, Thank You*

**Rev. Jolie Olivetti**

3:00 p.m. Musical Celebration of

Joanne Lowry's Life at the First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington, Ma (#630 Massachusetts Ave.) Rev. Jill will officiate.

Monday - Wednesday Rev. Jill away at Greenfield Group

Wednesday November 28

7-8pm Meditation

Thursday November 29

7-9pm Social Justice Ministries Council

7:30 p.m. Choir

Saturday December 1

8-10am Pageant Rehearsal

10-12 Mummies Rehearsal

Sunday December 2

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

*Come Love, Greater Than My Longing*

**Rev. Jill Cowie**

10-12 Mummies rehearsal

11:15-1:00 Newcomers Luncheon